



Sandra Lawson

Sandra was born in St. Louis and grew up in a military family. She graduated from Saint Leo University magna cum laude with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology. She also holds a master of arts degree in sociology from Clark Atlanta University.

Sandra has served in the U.S. Armed Services, owned a personal-training business and worked as an investigative researcher for the Anti-Defamation League.

Sandra uses her rabbinic training to bring Judaism to where people already are in their lives. She received Auerbach Entrepreneurial Innovation Ignition Grants to lead Shabbat services in a vegan cafe and for a podcast that focuses on Torah.

Sandra is forever grateful for those whom the Source of Life has placed on her path to becoming a rabbi. She thanks her RRC professors for their support, encouragement and generosity. She thanks her spiritual director, Rabbi Yael Levy, for her presence, guidance and being her cheerleader. She thanks Rabbi Joshua Lesser for his friendship and guidance, but mostly, for being her brother from another mother. And she offers a special thank you to her wife, Susan, for making her laugh and embracing this journey.

“My vision as a rabbi is to help build a more inclusive Jewish community where all who want to come are welcomed, diversity is embraced, and we can come together to learn and to pray.”



מודה אני לפניך ריח סי וקנים, שְׁהִחַזַרְתָּ בִּי נִשְׁמָתִי בְּחַמְלָה, רַבָּה אֱמוּנָתְךָ:

“I offer thanks to You, God, for restoring my soul within me; You God are awesome!”

אֱלֹהִי, נִשְׁמָה שְׁנַתַּתְּ בִּי טְהוֹרָה הִיא. אַתָּה בְּרָאתָהּ. אַתָּה יִצְרַתָּהּ. אַתָּה נִפְחַתָּהּ בִּי. וְאַתָּה מְשַׁמְרָהּ בְּקִרְבִּי. וְאַתָּה עֲתִיד לְטַלְאָהּ מִמֶּנִּי לַחַיִּי עוֹלָם

“My God, the soul you gave me is pure. You created it, you shaped it, and you breathed it into me, and you preserve it deep inside of me. And someday you will take it from me, restoring it to everlasting life.”